

Small Group Discussion Questions McCormick County

What is occurring in your community which addresses these responsibilities and areas for action?

- Head Start
- First Steps
- Full Day 4-K
- Montessori 3-5 yr.
- JAG- Jobs For America's Graduates
- Piedmont Tech- Articulation Agreements
- Adult Ed.
- Mentoring – volunteer
- 1st Day of School America
- Parenting workshops
- Flexible times for report card pick up
- Parent child field trips
- Induction for 1st year teachers
- MHS- Recruitment Incentives
- District- Attendance , coursework reimbursement, laptops
- EDI- All students taught at grade level every day!
- Technology
- Virtual schools
- Parent, teacher reading program
- Montessori Kindergarten
- Adult literacy program
- Middle school mentoring program
- Adequate facilities and technology
- New MES/MMS facility used by community/Good technology support
- Allocation for poor schools being used to retain teachers.
- Community wide Mc Money program.
- Teachers mentoring new teachers.
- School based parent coordinator.
- Program to get feedback to teachers on student achievement.

What are the critical barriers to fulfilling the commitment in your community?

- Low expectations
- Inter generational poverty
- Hopelessness
- Lack of role models
- Apathy
- Lack of jobs
- Retention of quality educators
- Rural area
- Teacher pay
- Declining enrollment
- Lack of decent employment in the area
- High school and athletic facilities not included in original board referendum.
- No economic development
- No housing- no social activities for young professionals
- Have not created a partnership between families, educators and community./poor communication-only weekly paper-no tv or radio
- No environment for all getting together

List the five most important things your community can do to address the responsibilities of Common Ground.

- Greater exposure for students and parents (college visits, museums, job sites, etc.)
- Additional career/graduate programs
- Chamber of Commerce-schools
- Build relationships...
- Foster academic excellence
- Support excellence in schools
- Reward excellence
- Get involved in improvement efforts
- Share resources with neighboring districts, etc.
- Visit the schools
- Value differences and difference of opinion.
- Identify and recognize good roll models.
- Foster partnerships between schools and retirees and community
- Improve adult literacy rates.

List the five most important things you as an individual can do to address the responsibilities of Common Ground.

- Adopt a program or school
- Promote teacher quality
- Positive attitude toward education
- Involvement in creating policy
- Become a teacher/ tutor